

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 remain pending. Applicants have amended claims 1, 11, and 12 to pursue alternative ways of claiming the invention. Support for the amendments can be found, e.g., in and Figure 12 and paragraphs [0074] and [0079]-[0081] of the application as filed. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Itoh, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0021037. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites “a second setting section for setting up an optional sender address representing a sender in place of a sending station address specifying the network scanner device by accepting a designation of the sender address which is distinct from the sending station address”. Itoh fails to disclose or suggest a second setting section as claimed.

The Examiner has compared the second setting section with Itoh's Figure 10 and paragraphs [0020], [0059], and [0146]. Itoh's disclosure, however, differs from amended claim 1 in at least two respects.

First, Itoh's “IP address of sender”, as illustrated in Fig. 10, is not distinct from a sending station address – it *is* a sending station address. In other words, Itoh uses the terms “IP address of sender” (Itoh, Fig. 10) and “IP address of [the] network scanning apparatus” (Itoh, [0075]) interchangeably to refer to the same thing.

For instance, Itoh's paragraph [0059] explains that a “sender” refers to a “transmitting origination” such as an “end terminal node” in a network. Accordingly, in the context of sending a packet from a network scanning apparatus to a computer terminal, Itoh refers to the IP address of the *network scanning apparatus* as the “IP address of *sender*”.

Viewed from another angle, Itoh's paragraph [0158] explains that packets transmitted from a network scanning apparatus include “an IP address” and “a local IP address”. Taken in context, the IP address corresponds to a “transmitting destination address” shown in Itoh's Figure 10, and the

local IP address (which Itoh defines as “an IP address of a network scanner” – See, Itoh at [0075]) corresponds to an “IP address of sender” shown in Itoh’s Figure 10. Accordingly, Itoh again equates the “IP address of sender” with IP address of a network scanner.

Because Itoh’s “IP address of sender” refers to a sending station address, Itoh fails to disclose a sender address that is *distinct* from a sending station address, as required by amended claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Second, Itoh fails to teach setting up a sender address *in place of* a sending station address. For instance, Itoh fails to disclose setting up the “IP address of sender” in Figure 10 in place of another address. Itoh is completely silent on this issue. Because Itoh fails to disclose setting up a sender address in place of a sending station address, the rejection of claim 1 should be withdrawn.

Independent claims 11 and 12 are similar to claim 1 and are therefore patentable over Itoh for the reasons presented above. The remaining claims depend from claims 1, 11, and 12 and are patentable at least based on their respective dependences.

Applicants solicit an early action allowing the claims.

In view of the above, each of the claims in this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief, including extensions of time, and

authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No.

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Respectfully submitted,

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